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## 13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)

THIS LIST OF CURRENT ACTION LEVELS FOR POISONOUS OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES IN HUMAN FOOD OR ANIMAL FEED WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION TO CONTROL LEVELS OF CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD AND FEEDS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 21, CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, PART 509.4 ACTION LEVELS FOR POISONOUS OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES MAY BE ESTABLISHED AND WILL BE REVOKED WHEN A TOLERANCE FOR THE SAME SUBSTANCE AND USE BECOMES EFFECTIVE. THIS LIST IS CURRENT AS OF JANUARY 6, 1978. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER OF THE LIST TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE ON THE ACTION LEVELS, EITHER NEW ACTION LEVELS WHICH MAY BE ESTABLISHED OR FOR ANY REVISION OR REVOCATION OF EXISTING ACTION LEVELS. THE LEVELS REPRESENT THE LIMIT AT OR ABOVE WHICH FDA WILL TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THE PRODUCT TO REMOVE IT FROM THE MARKET. WHERE NO ESTABLISHED TOLERANCE OR ACTION LEVEL EXISTS, THE FDA MAY TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THE PRODUCT AT THE MINIMUM DETECTABLE LEVEL.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

# Action Levels for Poisonous or Deleterious Substances in Human and Animal Feed

To: Requestors of Action Levels for Poisonous or Deleterious  
Substances in Human Food and Animal Feed Booklet

We are sending you a copy of the "Action Levels for Poisonous  
or Deleterious Substances in Human Food and Animal Feed" that  
you requested in your recent letter.

The Food and Drug Administration does not charge for this  
publication. However, we have a limited supply, and can  
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We hope that the necessity to limit the number of copies will  
not present a hardship to you. If we can be of additional  
assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,  
*John M. Tisler*  
John M. Tisler  
Chief, Industry Guidance Branch  
Bureau of Foods

Enclosure

84338R01  
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Rocky Mountain Arsenal  
Information Center  
Commerce City, Colorado

# Action Levels for Poisonous or Deleterious Substances in Human Food and Animal Feed

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DTIC	<input type="checkbox"/> TAB
Unannounced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justification	
By	
Distribution /	
Availability Codes	
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This list of current action levels for poisonous or deleterious substances in human food or animal feed was established by the Food and Drug Administration to control levels of contaminants in food and feeds.

In accordance with Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 109.4, and Part 509.4 action levels for poisonous or deleterious substances may be established and will be revoked when a tolerance for the same substance and use becomes effective.

This list is current as of January 6, 1978. It is the responsibility of the user of the list to keep up-to-date on the action levels, either new action levels which may be established or for any revision or revocation of existing action levels. Notices will be published in the Federal Register when this occurs.

The levels represent the limit at or above which FDA will take legal action against the product to remove it from the market. Where no established tolerance or action level exists the FDA may take legal action against the product at the minimum detectable level. \*PLEASE NOTE

The mixing of a food containing any amount of a substance above the action level with another lot of the same or another food is not permitted and renders the final food unlawful regardless of the level of the substance in the finished food.

You may request the Administrative Guidelines which are referenced in the attached action level list from the Public Records and Document Center, FDA (HFC-18) 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857. The memoranda described are filed under Docket No. 77N-0166 at the Hearing Clerks Office, FDA (HFC-20) 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

For further assistance, call or write to the following FDA offices:

Food and Drug Administration  
Guidelines and Compliance Research Branch  
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Washington, D.C. 20204  
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Food and Drug Administration  
Industry Guidance Branch  
Bureau of Foods (HFF-342)  
200 C Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20204  
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Additional single copies of this list are available from the Industry Guidance Branch at the above address.

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# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Aflatoxin	Brazil Nuts	20 mcgs/kg	7412.01
	Foods and Feeds	20 mcgs/kg	7420.01
	Peanuts & Peanut Products	20 mcgs/kg	7412.03
	Pistachio Nut	20 mcgs/kg	7412.05
Aldrin & Dieldrin	Animal Feed, processed		
	Artichokes	0.03 ppm	7426.04 - A
	Blackberries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - A
	Blueberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Boysenberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Butter (fat basis)	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Currants	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - D
	Dairy Products (fat basis)	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - A
	Dairy Products, excluding low fat dairy products	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - D
	Dewberries		
	Eggs	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - A
	Elderberries	0.03 ppm	" " "
	Fats & Oils: animal, vegetable fish (animal feed)	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Fish, raw edible portion	0.3 ppm	7426.04 - A
	Fish, smoked, frozen, canned		
	Figs	0.3 ppm	7420.09 - A
	Gooseberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Hay (animal feed)	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Huckleberries	0.03 ppm	7426.04 - A
	Loganberries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - A
	Melons (unless otherwise specified)	0.05 ppm	" " "
		0.15 ppm	" " "

(continued)



# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Aldrin & Dieldrin (continued)	Milk (fat basis), raw unpasteurized	0.3 ppm	7420.09 - A
	Raspberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Shellfish, raw edible portion	0.3 ppm	" " "
	Shellfish, smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - D
	Sugarbeet Pulp (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7420.04 - A
	Sugarbeet Pulp (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.08 - D
Azodrin	Peppers	0.1 ppm	TWXRUEVEHQ002
	Squash	0.1 ppm	Memo, 2-25-74
	Strawberries	0.1 ppm	from Sam D. Fine Assoc. Commis- sioner for Compliance
Benzene Hexachloride (BHC)	Animal Feed, processed	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
	Artichokes	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - B
	Barley, grain (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
	Barley, grain (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09 - B
	Beans	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Beets	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Blackberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Blueberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Boysenberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Butter (fat basis)	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - A
	(continued)		

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE  
BHC (continued)

COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Carrots	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - B
Citrus Fruit	0.5 ppm	" " "
Cocoa Beans, whole raw bean	0.5 ppm	" " "
Corn, fresh sweet	0.5 ppm	" " "
Corn, grain (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
Corn, grain, (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09 - B
Cranberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
Currants	0.5 ppm	" " "
Dairy Products (fat basis), manufactured, excluding low fat dairy products	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - A
Dewberries	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - B
Eggs	0.5 ppm	" " "
Elderberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
Endive	0.5 ppm	" " "
Figs	0.5 ppm	" " "
Frog Legs, edible portion	0.5 ppm	7420.08 - A
Gooseberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
Guavas	0.5 ppm	" " "
Hays (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
Huckleberries	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - B
Loganberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
Mangoes	0.5 ppm	" " "
Milk (fat basis), raw, unpasteurized	0.3 ppm	" " "
Milo, sorghums (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
Milo, sorghums (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09 - B
Oats, grain (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
Oats, grain (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09 - B
Peas	0.5 ppm	" " "
Pineapples	0.5 ppm	" " "
Potatoes	0.5 ppm	" " "

(continued)

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
BHC (continued)	Quinces	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - B
	Radishes	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Raspberries	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Rice, grain	0.1 ppm	" " "
	Rutabagas	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Rye, grain (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
	Rye, grain (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09 - B
	Sweet Potatoes	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Turnips	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Turnip Greens or Tops	0.5 ppm	" " "
	Wheat, grain (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04 - B
	Wheat, grain (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09 - B
Cadmium	Pottery (Ceramics) and Enamelware	0.5 mcgs/ml of leaching Solution	7417.02
Chlordane	Animal Fat, rendered	0.8 ppm	7426.04 - D
	Animal Feed, processed	0.1 ppm	" " "
Crotonalaria Seeds <u>C. spectabilis</u> and/or <u>C. striata</u>	Grains and Feeds	Average of 1 whole seed/pound	7426.03

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Dimethoate & Dimethoate Oxygen Analog	Cucumber	0.1 ppm	MEMO, 2-25-74 from
	Squash	0.1 ppm	Sam D. Fine, Assoc
	Strawberries	0.2 ppm	Commissioner for Compliance Memos of Telecon 3-14-75 and 1-20- 76, Curtis E. Coker
DDT	Cocoa Beans, whole raw bean	2.0 ppm	7420.09 - E
DDT, TDE, DDE	Animal Feed, processed	0.5 ppm	7426.05 - E
	Barley, grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	" "
	Barley, grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Corn, grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - E
	Corn, grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Eggs	1.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Fish, raw	5.0 ppm	" "
	Fish, smoked, frozen, canned	5.0 ppm	7420.08 - C
	Hay	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - E
	Milo (Sorghum), grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	" "
	Milo (Sorghum), grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Oats, grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - E
	Oats, grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Rice, grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - E
	Rice, grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Rye, grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - E
	Rye, grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F
	Wheat, grain (animal feed)	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - E
	Wheat, grain (human food)	0.5 ppm	7420.09 - F

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Endrin	Animal Feed, processed	0.03 ppm	7426.04 - F
	Apples	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Apricots	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Artichokes	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Asparagus	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Beans	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Beets	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Blackberries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Blueberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Boysenberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Butter (fat basis)	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Carrots	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - E
	Cherries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Citrus Fruit	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Collards	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Corn, fresh sweet	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Cranberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Currants	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Dairy Products (fat basis), manufactured, excluding low fat dairy products	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Dewberries	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - E
	Eggs	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Elderberries	0.03 ppm	" " "
	Endive	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Figs	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Fish Meal, Fish Solubles, Fish Oil (animal feed)	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Fish, raw edible portion	0.3 ppm	7426.04 - F
	Fish, smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	" " "
	Gooseberries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Grapes	0.05 ppm	" " "
	(continued)		

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Endrin (continued)	Guavas	0.05 ppm	" "
	Huckleberries	0.05 ppm	" "
	Kale	0.05 ppm	" "
	Kohlrabi	0.05 ppm	" "
	Milk (fat basis), raw	0.05 ppm	" "
	unpasteurized	0.3 ppm	" "
	Lettuce	0.05 ppm	" "
	Loganberries	0.05 ppm	" "
	Mangoes	0.05 ppm	" "
	Melons	0.05 ppm	" "
	Mustard Greens	0.05 ppm	" "
	Nectarines	0.05 ppm	" "
	Oilseed Meal, peanut, soybean,	0.05 ppm	7426.07 - F
	cottonseed, etc. (animal feed)	0.03 ppm	
	Okra	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Onions	0.05 ppm	" "
	Peaches	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Pears	0.05 ppm	" "
	Peas	0.05 ppm	" "
	Pimentoes	0.05 ppm	" "
	Pineapples	0.05 ppm	" "
	Plums	0.05 ppm	" "
	Pumpkins	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Quinces	0.05 ppm	" "
	Radishes	0.05 ppm	" "
	Raspberries	0.05 ppm	" "
	Rutabagas	0.05 ppm	" "
	Shellfish, raw edible portions	0.05 ppm	" "
	Shellfish, smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	" "
		0.3 ppm	7420.08 - E

(continued)

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Endrin (continued)	Spinach	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - G
	Strawberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Sweet Potatoes	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Turnips	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Turnip Green	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Vegetable Oils & Fats, including soapstock (animal feed)	0.3 ppm	7426.04 - F
Fenthion	Ground Red Peppers	0.3 ppm	Memo dated 8-12-74 from Henry J. Korp., EPA
Heptachlor & Heptachlor Epoxide	Animal Feed, processed	0.03 ppm	7426.04 - G
	Apricots	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Artichokes	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Asparagus	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Beans, except snap beans	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Broccoli	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Celery	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Citrus Fruit	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Collards	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Cranberries	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Cucumbers	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Currants	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Dairy Products (fat basis), manufactured, excluding low fat dairy products	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Eggs	0.03 ppm	" " "
	Eggplant	0.05 ppm	" " "
	Elderberries	0.05 ppm	" " "

(continued)

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Heptachlor & Heptachlor Epoxide (continued)	Endive	0.05 ppm	" "
	Figs	0.05 ppm	" "
	Fish, raw edible portion	0.3 ppm	" "
	Fish, smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - F
	Gooseberries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Hays	0.03 ppm	7426.04 - G
	Huckleberries	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Kale	0.05 ppm	" "
	Loganberries	0.05 ppm	" "
	Melons	0.05 ppm	" "
	Mustard Greens	0.05 ppm	" "
	Nectarines	0.05 ppm	" "
	Okra	0.05 ppm	" "
	Parsley	0.05 ppm	" "
	Pears	0.05 ppm	" "
	Pimentoes	0.05 ppm	" "
	Plums	0.05 ppm	" "
	Pumpkins	0.05 ppm	" "
	Quinces	0.05 ppm	" "
	Rice, grain (animal feed)	0.03 ppm	7426.04 - G
	Rice, grain (human food)	0.03 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Shellfish, raw, edible portion	0.3 ppm	" "
	Shellfish, smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - F
	Spinach	0.05 ppm	7420.09 - H
	Squash	0.05 ppm	" "
	Strawberries	0.05 ppm	" "
	Winter Squash	0.05 ppm	" "
	Winter Squash	0.05 ppm	" "



# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
1,1 Bis (p-Chlorophenyl) -2,2,2,-trichloroethanol (Kelthane)	Animal Feed, processed	0.5 ppm	7420.04 - H
	Tangelos	10 ppm	7420.09 - I
Kepone	Crabs, raw edible portion	0.4 ppm	7420.09 - Q
	Crabs, edible portions, frozen or canned	0.4 ppm	7420.08 - K
	Fish, raw edible portion	0.3 ppm	7420.09 - Q
	Fish, smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - K
	Shellfish (oysters, clams, mussels) raw edible portion	0.3 ppm	7420.09 - Q
	Shellfish (oysters, clams, mussels) smoked, frozen, canned	0.3 ppm	7420.08 - K
Lead	Evaporated Milk	0.5 ppm	
	Pottery (Ceramics) and Enamelware	7 mcgs/ml of leaching solution	7417.03
Silver-plated Holloware		7 mcgs/ml of leaching solution if product intended for use by adults	7417.01
		0.5 mcgs/ml of leaching solution if product intended for use by infants and children	

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Lindane	Animal Feed, processed	0.1 ppm	7426.04-I
	Artichokes	0.5 ppm	7420.09-J
	Barley (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04-I
	Barley (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09-J
	Beans	0.5 ppm	" "
	Beets, garden	0.5 ppm	" "
	Blackberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Blueberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Boysenberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Butter (fat basis)	0.3 ppm	7420.08-G
	Carrots	0.5 ppm	7420.09-J
	Citrus Fruits	0.5 ppm	" "
	Cocoa Beans, whole raw bean	0.5 ppm	" "
	Corn, fresh sweet	0.5 ppm	" "
	Corn, grain (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04-I
	Corn, grain (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09-J
	Cranberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Currants	0.5 ppm	" "
	Dairy Products (fat basis), manufactured, excluding low fat dairy products	0.3 ppm	7420.08-G
	Dewberries	0.5 ppm	7420.09-J
	Eggs	0.5 ppm	" "
	Elderberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Endive	0.5 ppm	" "
	Figs	0.5 ppm	" "
	Gooseberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Hays	0.1 ppm	7426.04-I
	Huckleberries	0.5 ppm	7420.09-J
	Loganberries	0.5 ppm	" "
	Milk (fat basis), raw, unpasteurized	0.3	" "
	Milo, Sorghums (animal feed)	0.1 ppm	7426.04-I
	Milo, Sorghums (human food)	0.1 ppm	7420.09-J
	(continued)		

# LIST OF FDA ACTION LEVELS

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Mirex	Fish	0.1 ppm	Memo, 5-7-76 from Edwin L. Johnson EPA
Monitor	Produce (except those for which tolerances are established)	0.1 ppm	Memo 3-21-73 from John R. Wessel. Memo 3-19-73 from Douglas D. Camp, EPA
Paralytic Shellfish Toxin	Clams, Mussels, Oysters, fresh, frozen, canned	80 micrograms/ 100 grams meat	7408.04
Phosvel	Peppers Green Beans	0.1 ppm 0.1 ppm	Memo, 2-25-74 from Sam D. Fine Assoc. Commissioner for Compliance
Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBB's)	Milk & Dairy Products (fat basis) Meat (fat basis) Eggs Animal Feed	0.3 ppm 0.3 ppm 0.05 ppm 0.05 ppm	"A Review of Congressman Wm. M. Brodhead's Petition to Reduce FDA's Action Level: for Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBB) In Food", July 27, 1977

(continued)

SUBSTANCE	COMMODITY	ACTION LEVEL	REFERENCE
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's)	Paper food - packaging material intended for or used with human food, finished animal feed & any components intended for animal feeds	10 ppm	21 CFR 109.30(a), (9) Tolerance stayed on 8-24-73 (38 FR 22794)
Toxaphene	Animal Feed, processed	0.5 ppm	7426.04 - M
	Artichokes	1.0 ppm	7420.09 - P
	Asparagus	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Beets	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Blueberries	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Cherries	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Currants	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Figs	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Fish, raw edible portion	5.0 ppm	" " " "
	Fish, smoked, frozen, canned	5.0 ppm	7420.08 - J
	Grapes	1.0 ppm	7420.09 - P
	Melons	1.0 ppm	7420.09 - P
	Mustard Greens	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Plums	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Potatoes	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Pumpkins	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Squash	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Summer Squash	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Sweet Potatoes	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Turnips	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Turnip Greens or Tops	1.0 ppm	" " " "
	Winter Squash	1.0 ppm	" " " "

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
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